### **National Scenic Byways Program (NSBP):**

Lariat Loop National Scenic Byway Interpretive Kiosk and Signs	Colorado	\$40,000.00	L97E	SB12CO1
Trail of the Ancients McElmo Flume Overlook	Colorado	\$252,631.00	L97E	SB12CO2
Colorado Welcome Center in Trinidad	Colorado	\$280,904.00	L97E	SB12CO3
Gold Belt Tour Scenic and Historic Byway High Park Road Safety Fencing	Colorado	\$65,600.00	L97E	SB12CO4
Silver Thread Scenic Byway Rest Area and Interpretive Improvements	Colorado	\$110,080.00	L97E	SB12CO8
Los Caminos Antiguos Portal Entry, Directional, and Interpretive Signage	Colorado	\$157,000.00	L97E	SB12CO6
Santa Fe Trail Scenic and Historic Byway Signage and Site Improvements	Colorado	\$69,120.00	L97E	SB12CO9
Cache la Poudre Informational and Interpretive Signage	Colorado	\$37,960.00	L97E	SB12CO7
Conservation and Development Planning Along Colorado's Byways	Colorado	\$462,000.00	L97E	SB12CO5
Santa Fe Trail Coordinated Road Signage	Colorado	\$39,288.00	L97E	SB12CO0
Total for Colorado (10 projects)		\$1,514,583.00	-	

## **Project Summaries:**

# **Lariat Loop National Scenic Byway Interpretive Kiosk and Signs**

This project will construct an interpretive kiosk at the entrance to a 900-car capacity lot adjacent to the Morrison/I70 interchange. The kiosk will consist of 8 interpretive panels mounted under a metal roof supported by steel columns clad in native stone. The interpretive panels will describe scenic, historic and natural places to see along the Lariat Loop National Scenic Byway; especially those areas nearest the towns of Morrison and Golden. The project meets the "liveability" criterion because it encourages visitors to visit historic and scenic areas closer to home. Over 100,000 vehicles travel the I70 corridor and the 900-car capacity lot is full most weekends.

This project benefits the byway traveler by serving the following functions: 1. It provides a gateway location for the traveler to get information about the Lariat Loop and places to visit along the Loop day or night. 2. It provides a group meeting location along a busy corridor, for groups like tour bus groups. 3. It provides those who plan to Bike the Byways a base location.

#### **Trail of the Ancients McElmo Flume Overlook**

This project will provide safe highway access to a proposed interpretative stop along the byway, and provide interpretive information on the importance of irrigation to the development of the Montezuma Valley. The original CMP for Trail of the Ancients (TOTA) includes a goal to "explore aspects of the byway beyond archaeology," and inclusion of the McElmo Creek Flume as a byway stop extends, educates and connects TOTA to parts of our community and the traveling public not previously included. Development of an overlook and interpretive stop for The Flume provides a safe way to learn while protecting the public and this fragile resource from danger and injury.

Byway benefits will broaden travelers experience to include byway aspects beyond archaeology. Including the McElmo Flume as a byway stop will expand our outreach/education programs: provide an avenue to explore the connection between TOTA and the agri-tourism program managed by Mesa Verde Country; and

look for shared opportunities with other community members. Preservation and restoration of The Flume will provide a valuable historic resource for public view and education that has largely been forgotten and is listed on Colorado's Most Endangered Places list. The Flume is the only one left of 104 originally constructed and this irreplaceable interpretative opportunity is about to be lost.

#### **Colorado Welcome Center in Trinidad**

The project will consist of structural, functional and aesthetic upgrades to both the interior and exterior of the Colorado Welcome Center including the repointing of stone and brick, gutter repair, painting and sealing, foundation repair, sign stabilization, window replacement, heating and cooling system upgrades and the addition of ADA-compliant restroom facilities and entrances, carpeting, safety signage, display cases, furniture, computer workstations, appliances and LED lighting. The project will also include parking lot re-striping and the addition of a new sprinkler system, landscaping, bicycle racks, fencing, murals and information kiosks as well as interpretive educational displays.

The project benefits the byway traveler by modernizing the primary information center in Southeastern Colorado and the first information center encountered by travelers heading into Colorado along I-25 from the south. In addition to local points of interest, the center provides information on all twenty-five (25) byways throughout the State and is located at the juncture of two byways - the Santa Fe Trail and the Highway of Legends. An energy efficient and ADA-compliant facility complete with educational and interpretive displays as well as wireless internet and computer workstations will offer travelers a clean, safe environment designed for rest, education, information and orientation.

#### Gold Belt Tour Scenic and Historic Byway High Park Road Safety Fencing

This project will correct a very serious safety condition on our most traveled route County Road 11 (High Park Road) of the Gold Belt Tour Byway. This area has working ranches and Open Range, allowing cattle to roam free which includes the road way. Unfortunately, the traffic on this route has increased 40 percent since our designation of State Byway, thus creating a true safety issue. There has a been one confirmed human death due to Cattle traffic accident and numerous cattle deaths. This grant will fence 10 miles of the range to keep the cattle off the road way while preserving our important Ranching History. Interpretive signage about the rich ranching cultural will be installed.

This project benefits the byway traveler by keeping them safe, pure and simple. By doing this project we will also preserve the cultural heritage of the byway, so that the traveler can continue to see open space, cattle roaming the west and a special experience.

# Silver Thread Scenic Byway Rest Area and Interpretive Improvements

This project will provide new accessible restrooms, interpretation, paving repairs, and new buck and pole fencing at Spring Creek Reservoir and at the top of Spring Creek Pass. These stops along the Silver Thread Scenic Byway offer visitors a chance to get out and use safe, accessible facilities, view the scenery, fish, and walk along the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail. There is no interpretation currently at Spring Creek Reservoir, however, Spring Creek Pass has a six panel interpretive display that is in need of signs. These locations are major stopping points along the Silver Thread Scenic Byway image.

This project benefits the byway traveler by providing safe and accessible restrooms, paving repairs, fencing, and interpretive signs along the heavily used Spring Creek Reservoir and Spring Creek Pass along the Silver Thread Scenic Byway. These locations are located at the midpoint on the Byway and the Continental Divide and serve year-round visitors. The existing restrooms are old wooden buildings that provide no accessibility and are not currently up to standard. These new features would greatly improve the visitors experience and bring these locations and bring two heavily used sites up to ADA standards along the Byway. All new improvements will comply with existing Byway standards.

### Los Caminos Antiguos Portal Entry, Directional, and Interpretive Signage

This project will provide 6 new entry signs at key locations and "portal communities" along the Byway in collaboration with the Sangre de Cristo National Heritage Area. Additionally, 18 interpretive Byway signs will be updated and replaced, and 6 new recreation opportunity signs will be added near Cumbres and La Manga Pass. There are currently no portal entry signs to identify this Byway. The original signs need updating due to the 2009 Heritage Area Designation, and some are missing from their locations. Beyond identifying the Byway, this project will promote its intrinsic scenic, natural, historical, cultural and recreational qualities.

This project benefits the Byway by providing traveler orientation along the Byway and within the National Heritage Area. These new portal signs will offer new learning opportunities about the Byway communities and historical sites. They will also orient visitors with information about local services and facilities that can improve their Byway experience. Updating the existing Byway signs will provide more comprehensive interpretation about the Byway and the Heritage Area. Adding the new recreation signs will encourage visitors to get out of their vehicles and participate in the many recreational opportunities the Byway presents.

## Santa Fe Trail Scenic and Historic Byway Signage and Site Improvements

This project will meet critical infrastructure needs and provide for a broad section of travelers, increase Byway awareness, visitation, visitor safety, education and provide interpretation and way showing where there is none. We seek Byway sustainability while contributing to the region's local economies. The project provides 8 interpretive signs for four newly opened visitor sites, viewing telescopes for two new sites, 12 bike racks for 8 Bike the Byways locations, safety improvements for MM15 interpreted pull off, 4 highway signs for radio broadcasts, 4 pocket tour booklets for guided tours in 4 communities, and collaboration for the scenic byway corridor to identify needs on the route.

This project benefits the byway traveler by 1. providing interpretation for visitors at new locations which are not currently provided for. 2. providing a safe pull off with graveling and parking illumination. 3. encouraging multi-modal transportation by installing bike racks for visitor use at 8 locations 4. way showing at our eastern gateway assuring that travelers have access to service and attractions which connects 3 states and 5 sister byways. 5. enhancing and improving the quality and continuity of visitor experience through guided tours, pocket tour booklets and scenic viewing telescopes. 6. providing smart planning and collaboration for Byway preservation and improvements.

# **Cache la Poudre Informational and Interpretive Signage**

The project will redesign and fabricate information kiosk panels at approximately 35 locations along 53 miles of the Scenic Byway. Signs will be of a consistent style on National Forest Lands and include information relative to the Byway's scenic and historic significance. Interpretation will be included at each portal location to not only make it interesting for visitors but to provide more information on the Scenic Byway. Current recreational kiosk signing varies in size, style and fabrication method. The Cache la Poudre is Colorado's only Wild & Scenic River. Designated for its scenic and recreational values, free-flowing character, water volume and its water quality.

This project benefits the byway traveler by having a consistent theme that will outline regulations, safety information, byway information, where they are in the corridor, and give them a little history/interpretation of the area they are in. By including more of the historic and scenic interpretation the Byway traveler will be able to get a richer flavor of the area. From the Native Americans that lived and traveled through to the fur trappers of the 1800's and up to the present day

# **Conservation and Development Planning Along Colorado's Byways**

This project will: (a) establish economic development plans for three Colorado byways that model how sustainable economic growth contributes to and benefits from natural resource protection; (b) expand conservation efforts on five byways to support public access and commerce; (c) provide new conservation outreach, planning, and implementation resources to eight byways and share economic modeling and conservation tools with those byways; and (d) develop

educational materials that showcase the relationship between byways, land conservation, and economic development. The project is advanced by the Colorado Scenic Byways Conservation Coalition.

This project benefits the byway traveler by providing new opportunities for public recreation and commerce. It promotes cultural exchanges that are intimate and steeped in western tradition. It creates occasions for the byway traveler to interact with farmers, ranchers, recreational guides, local businesses, and craftsmen. It conserves private land and water resources that protect the visual, ecological, and economic integrity of the byway. And it preserves a seamless travel experience between public and private lands for the byway visitor. By protecting land and building new opportunities for cultural and economic exchange, this project enhances livability on Colorado's byways.

# **Santa Fe Trail Coordinated Road Signage**

This project will provide instant visibility to the traveling public to find, follow, and experience the Santa Fe Trail through the 4 counties in Colorado where the Santa Fe Trail passes. It will implement completed byway and national historic trail plans for Colorado and builds on ongoing trail efforts. A complete package of needed signs will be installed allowing visitors to experience the historic Santa Fe Trail and immediately raise awareness and interest in visiting the trail. Implementation of this "family" of trail signs has resulted in an increase in tourism where these signs have already been installed along the trail. Tourism based jobs and economic benefit will be a direct result.

This project benefits the byway traveler by, for the first time, allowing the public to follow a standard "family" of Santa Fe National Historic Trail signs to find and experience historic trail sites and segments. Implementing the sign plan will immediately increase awareness and visibility and bring the historic trail "into the present" to the byway traveler and public. By implementing the coordinated byway and national historic trail sign plan it allows the public to experience the trail following the same recognizable signing system along the entire length of the Santa Fe National Historic Trail. This project meets a critical infrastructure need while contributing to the regional economy.